

The Times.

THE TIMES COMPANY.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1899.

A DREAM INTERPRETED.

Readers of The Times will recall that some months back this paper directed attention to an article in the Atlantic Monthly by John S. Wise, Esq., of New York, in which he told of a mission upon which he was sent by President Davis to General Lee, while the Army of Northern Virginia was falling back to Appomattox Courthouse. Mr. Wise told in that article that he was a lieutenant, of eighteen years and that General Lee had no knowledge of who he was further than that he was a lad bringing him a message from Mr. Davis. Mr. Wise proceeded then to detail a conversation he had with General Lee in which he described statements by General Lee that were simply astounding to all Confederate soldiers. Amongst other things, he showed that General Lee had made a confidant of him in respect to his plans, and had told him, in substance, that he had always known the Confederacy could not succeed, and this in such a way as to indicate unmistakably that General Lee had never had any heart in the cause.

The Times took the liberty of expressing its amazement at these statements and of questioning the accuracy of Mr. Wise's recollections. It did not intimate that Mr. Wise had wilfully misrepresented anything, but it suggested that he must have "dreamed" the interview and, through time and many repetitions, had come to believe that what was originally a dream had really become a reality.

Mr. Wise took sharp exception to our examination of the case and protested, almost violently, against it.

The whole thing is made perfectly clear now.

Mr. Wise has published a book called "The End of an Era," which deals with social conditions before the civil war in Virginia and gives his own personal recollections of the events of the war that came under his own observations. He tells us in his preface that he tried to write in the third person but found he was making a miserable failure and was therefore compelled, from the artistic standpoint, to write in the first person singular. But he found himself embarrassed by the difficulty that some of the things he wanted to tell about happened to his brother Dick, while others happened to himself, and as he could not make out which was the quota of Dick and which was his own, he appropriated all to himself and told them all as happening to himself. We quote the following from his preface:

"With a first edition I planned to print this book I made every effort to construct it in the third person. It was a lamentable failure and made it appear even more egotistical than in its present form. Having returned to the narrative in the first person singular, I found myself a participant in several scenes in which I was not actually present. How to eliminate these and, at the same time, preserve the continuity of the narrative, was a serious problem. I solved it at last by the device of my own living brother that he would stand for me in several episodes, having told me all I know." (A note at this point names Hon. Richard A. Wise, of Williamsburg.) "I will not mar the narrative by pointing out the places in which my brother is myself. This confession redeems the book from being classed either as an autobiography or a romance, and whenever anybody shall say to me, 'Why you were not there?' I will answer like the Israeltite gentleman, 'Yes, I knew. But was mine brother.'"

That explains the whole thing. The interview was between General Lee and Dick, and it was to Dick General Lee made these astonishing statements. John's part went no further than recording it. Dick did the dreaming.

DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY.

Richmond will cordially receive and welcome the Daughters of the Confederacy, who meet here this week to transact important business and especially to pay tribute to the memory of Winnie Davis. We talk a great deal about the courage and daring of the men who fought the South's battles, and too much cannot be said in their behalf, but greater, if possible, were the heroism and sacrifice of the women who stayed at home. It was easier for the men to go to the front and fight the Northern troops than for the women to stay at home and fight poverty. The men were buoyed up by the adventure and excitement of war. The women led a dull drab life at home, constantly ex-

posed to danger and enduring hardship, waiting for the inevitable and counting themselves fortunate if the body of husband or son were brought home for Christian burial instead of being rudely covered up in the trenches.

God only knows what these women suffered, and they and the organization which represents them will always be loved, honored and revered by Southern chivalry.

DR. CALISCH AND THE BOERS.

If there is anything that The Times loves it is courage, independence, manhood, and our sympathies are always with the courageous, manly men who fight for their independence. Our sympathies therefore, were naturally with the South African Dutch in their struggle with Great Britain, yet this has not blinded us to the fact that the Boers are standing in the way of progress, and that in the very nature of things they must sooner or later yield to the demands of a higher civilization.

In an article along this line, printed in last Sunday's paper, we outline the situation in South Africa and gave our views in extenso. We showed that the Transvaal Republic, so-called, is an oligarchy;

that it has imposed heavy taxes upon the Uitlanders without giving them any voice in the government; that it has fostered a monopoly requiring miners to pay almost double price for their supplies of dynamite; that it has denied representation to certain men because of their religious faith; that it has stubbornly resisted all efforts from the outside in the direction of progress and a higher civilization. Therefore, we concluded, the downfall of the Kruger regime was inevitable.

We are gratified to be sustained in that view by the Rev. Dr. Calisch, of this city, a scholar, a profound thinker, an ecclesiastical teacher, and, as we have ever found him, a fair and impartial judge.

In his sermon on Friday evening before the Beth Ahaba congregation, a synopsis of which was printed in yesterday's Times, Dr. Calisch made a very strong presentation of the case in which he said

that from the standpoint of humanity it does seem cruel, and, mayhap, even unjust, that the small nations are not permitted to work out their salvation according to their own lines. He agreed that the barbarian has rights which civilization ought to respect, but added that it is no less true that civilization has rights which the barbarian must observe. "A man who lives on the outskirts of a city, or in the isolation of the fields," said he, by way of illustration, "may maintain a nuisance of dirt and filth and no one will say him aught. But when the city grows up to him and clean-living neighbors are contiguous to him, then he must abate his nuisance and clean up his premises. This is barbarism and civilization in miniature."

That is a very clear presentation of the whole subject. It matters not how or why the Uitlanders of civilization chance to be in President Kruger's territory.

The fact is that they are there, that they have large interests there, that they outnumber the natives, own half the lands and nine-tenths of the personal property,

so we say it is stated, and being civilized and progressive they are pushing civilization and progress along.

Progress is the most aggressive thing in the world. It makes no compromises, it tolerates no opposition, it recognizes no barriers, it never stands still. It is forever on the march, and whether it be in South Africa, in the Philippines, in Cuba or in the United States of America, those who stand in its way will be crushed or driven to the wall. If any citizen of Richmond doubt this, let him make an experiment for himself. He will find that progress is just as obstructive and impulsive in Richmond as it is in Johannesburg.

It is not Great Britain's purpose, in waging this war, to lay waste and to destroy, but to improve and develop and infuse into the land the new blood of civilization. The London Spectator in discussing the war says that if England shall win she will establish the freest possible form of government known to the empire-taking care, of course, that the Boers' rights as to representation and the concurrent use of their language are fully guarded and protected. That promise is assured by Great Britain's conduct in the past. Wherever she has extended her sway she has carried enlightenment and improvement and scattered her blessings over the entire land.

IS SILVER TO BE IGNORED?

The Democratic National Bulletin, the weekly publication of the Democratic National Committee, made its appearance in Chicago yesterday under the auspices of its new editor, Mr. Sam. R. Cook.

In announcing that the Bulletin would be issued, the Chicago Chronicle, the leading Democratic paper in that city, said:

"It will be chiefly remarkable for its failure to discuss the silver question, except in one or two unimportant paragraphs, which were inserted to justify columns.

The articles, which it will contain, will deal altogether with trusts and imperialism.

This is both interesting and encouraging. It is hard to believe that the men who are now in charge of the Democratic party will abandon free silver as a leading issue, yet all things are possible in politics, and we hope for the best. May we, the leaders are at last opening their eyes to the ridiculous attitude that the party will occupy if it shall go before the people next year, in the face of the prosperity which the country is enjoying, with the proposition to overthrow our entire financial system and swap assured prosperity for one of Mr. Bryan's visionary promises.

OUR RELIGIOUS CONTEMPORARIES.

The President of the United States visited Richmond this week to enhance the interest of the launching of a warship, the "Shubrick," by the Trigg Shipbuilding Company. There was also a "carnival," Mr. McKinley is personally a "carnival," a Christian gentleman, an old-time Methodist, the bye, a man and dame, not to be named by the reporter, off to the beach.

Mr. Bryan leads a pure life. No party can be successful with a candidate of evil hopes. There is progress in this regard.—Christian Advocate.

And so John W. Daniel, the man whom all Virginia loves and honors, is to be scolded if he dare refuse to bow the knee to the man from Nebraska.

SONG OF THE MORNING.

Dreamer, Awake, Awake!

The waves of morning break

In rose and gold upon the sea of Day.

Arouse and trim your sails,

The light that never fails

Will go before you with its guiding ray.

Across the sea unknown,

For you, for you alone,

There lies a way which only you can trace.

It leads, O longing soul,

Umrining to your goal—

Follow, rest, not, and find your chosen place.

—New Church Messenger.

CHIVALRY.

We said the other day that if with the revival of the tournament there should

come a revival of old time Virginia chivalry, we would hail the tournament with delight. Do you know what were the nine virtues of chivalry? When the knight went forth he was charged as follows:

I. You shall hold with the sacrifice of the Great God of Heaven.

II. You shall honor your Father and Mother.

III. You shall be merciful to all People.

IV. You shall do no harm to the Poor,

children to be made familiar with the evil deeds so frankly recorded by the Hebrew annalists. But one may doubt whether the loss will not exceed the gain, when the perspective of ancient history is lost. To be consistent, those who object to the study and teaching of the Old Testament ought, also, to object to the classic literature of Greece and Rome.—Christian Register.

V. You shall not turn your back to your Enemies.

VI. You shall keep your Promise to Friend and Foe.

VII. You shall keep Hospitality, especially to Strangers.

VIII. You shall uphold the Maiden's Right.

IX. You shall not see the Widows wronged.

The true spirit of chivalry is summed up in these, and that was the spirit which has ever actuated the true Virginia gentlemen. Even to-day the flavor is not lost for those days when—"The mighty Lancelot, his lance in rest, Swept like a meteor through the ringing lists."

SOUTHERN NOTES.

The Georgia House of Delegates has

passed the Chappell tax rate bill amend-

ing to fix the limit of taxation at five milles instead of four, as provided in the original measure.

In his letter, which is printed to-day,

General McCrady reports the interesting

fact that a planter in St. Thomas

Parish, near Charleston, has achieved

a very notable success in silk culture,

his annual income from that source amounting to from \$6,000 to \$8,000, and that some of his neighbors, instructed and encouraged by his example, have made as much as \$800 to \$1,000 a year from the same product as a "by-crop," and "without neglecting other plantation work."

A Tampa correspondent says: Blair

Burwell, chief engineer for this division

of the Seaboard, was in the city yes-

terday. He spent the entire day con-

cerned with the construction of a new

bridge across the river at the mouth of

the Manatee River, about three miles

from the city. He is engaged in the

construction of a bridge across the

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